

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please **amend** the claims as follows:

30. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an analgesic combination consisting essentially of meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

B2 31. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 30, wherein the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof would be sub-therapeutic if administered without the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

32. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 30, wherein the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof are administered orally, via implant, parenterally, sublingually, rectally, topically, or via inhalation.

35. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 30, wherein the ratio of oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is from about 0.0001:1 to about 1:1.

B3 36. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 30, wherein the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof synergistically potentiates the effect of the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof but the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof does not synergistically potentiate the effect of the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

37. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein the oral solid dosage form includes a sustained release carrier which causes the sustained release of the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or both the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof when the dosage form contacts gastrointestinal fluid.

B3 38. (Amended) A method of effectively treating pain in humans or other mammals, comprising administering to a patient an analgesic combination consisting essentially of meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof such that the dosing interval of the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof overlaps with the dosing interval of the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

39. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof are administered orally.

40. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof are administered in a single oral dosage form.

41. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof would be sub-therapeutic if administered without the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

42. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered before, simultaneously with or after administration of the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, such that the dosing interval of the meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof overlaps with the dosing interval of the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

B3 43. (Amended) A method of reducing the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof required to treat a patient affected with pain, comprising co-administering said oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof with meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to augment the analgesia attributable to said oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof during at least a portion of the dosage interval of said oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

44. (Amended) A method of reducing the amount of meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof required to treat a patient affected with pain comprising co-administering said meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof with an effective amount of oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to augment the analgesia attributable to said meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof during at least a portion of the dosage interval of said meloxicam and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

45. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 30, wherein the oxycodone and/or at least one pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is present in an amount from about 2.5 mg to about 800 mg.